

REAP Conservation Education Program 2008 Grants



A total of seven conservation education grants were awarded for the May grant round, and eight in the November grant round, with awards totaling \$334,045. An approximate \$1,060,681 was leveraged through cash and in-kind matches.

Perpetuate a Good Idea Grants

KinderNature in Your Backyard--\$5,000

Little Sioux Valley Conservation Association (REAP CEP #09-08)

Contact: Jill Titcomb; Peterson

712-295-7200; occb@iowatelecom.net

Project funded: December 2008

This project will use materials and resources developed through a 2004 CEP grant to Story County. KinderNature in Your Backyard will promote the 2004 KinderNature website, and provide teacher training on those materials to early childhood educators in O'Brien and Osceola counties.

Growing in the Garden for Child Care and Early Childhood Educators--\$5,000

Louisa County Agricultural Extension District (REAP CEP #09-09)

Contact: Mary Crooks; Wapello

319-523-2371; mcrooks@iastate.edu

Project funded: December 2008

This initiative will introduce the revised PreK-3 Growing in the Garden curriculum to child care center directors and home child care providers in Linn and Johnson counties. The goal is for 40 or more educators and child care providers to be trained in Growing in the Garden.

Expanding the Eagles' Message: Lead in the Environment Advisory Group--\$4,950

Saving Our Avian Resources (REAP CEP #09-10)

Contact: Kay Neumann; Dedham

712-683-5555; diversityfarms@iowatelecom.net

Project funded: December 2008

This project will form a lead-education advisory group that includes stakeholders in the preservation of wildlife. The Advisory Group will provide a plan of action as to how to move forward with educational efforts on lead in the environment and its impacts on wildlife and human health.

REAP CEP Grants

Innovating Outreach to Iowa's Non-Operator Landowners--\$50,000

Conservation Districts of Iowa (REAP CEP #09-11)

Contact: Deb Ryun; Chariton

641-774-4461; debryun@cdiowa.org

Project funded: December 2008

The project will increase awareness of the importance of reaching out to absentee landowners on conservation issues. It will also increase knowledge and skills of select conservationists and educators and improve their effectiveness in engaging absentee landowners about conservation issues. Lastly, the project will provide tools and resources to enable the practitioners to champion absentee landowner issues and mentor their peers in working more effectively with these landowners.

Mountain Lions! In Iowa--\$33,342

Friends of Hartman Reserve (REAP CEP #09-01)

Contact: Anne Duncan; Cedar Falls

319-277-2187; anne_hrnc@yahoo.com

Project funded: May 2008

Hartman Reserve Nature Center will keep the traveling exhibit, Mountain Lions! In Iowa, until June 2010, and coordinate its travel to 12 nature centers around the state. The exhibit addresses the many myths about mountain lions and provides details about the natural history and ecology mountain lions.

Creating an Environmental Education Evaluation Model--\$26,360

Iowa 4-H Foundation (REAP CEP #09-14)

Contact: Janet Toering or Linda Naeve; Ames

515-450-4973; janeta@iastate.edu

Project funded: December 2008

The Iowa 4-H Foundation will hire an independent consultant to establish two statewide, environmental education annual assessment systems. One will measure youth outputs and outcomes and the other will measure usage of curriculum materials by educators.

Iowa Project WET Workshops--\$24,851

Iowa Academy of Science (REAP CEP #09-02)

Contact: Marcy Seavey; Cedar Falls

319-273-7486; seavey@uni.edu

Project funded: May 2008

[Click here to view the project's midterm report.](#)

The Iowa Academy of Science will provide environmental education workshops for 360 preservice and 20-30 inservice educators using Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) Curriculum and Activity Guide and additional Project WET resources.

Winter Solstice 2009: No Child Left Inside--\$19,082

Iowa Conservation Education Coalition (REAP CEP #09-03)

Contact: Gail Barels, Marion
319-892-6488; gail.barels@linncounty.org

Project funded: May 2008

Winter Solstice, to be held at Honey Creek Resort State Park, Lake Rathbun, January 23-25, 2009, will create and promote environmental education opportunities for Iowa educators. Richard Louv, author of Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder and Connie Mutel, author of The Emerald Horizon: The History of Nature in Iowa, will be keynote speakers.

Green Arts Project--\$20,000

Metro Arts Alliance of Greater Des Moines (REAP CEP #09-04)

Contact: Tracy Levine, Des Moines
515-280-3222; tracy@metroarts.org

Project funded: May 2008

[Click here to view the project's midterm report.](#)

The project will connect people of all ages to nature and build conservation awareness through the arts. Metro Arts Alliance of Greater Des Moines will work with 75-100 local artists and environmental professionals from partner organizations to develop arts-based conservation education programs for presentation at 60-100 central Iowa schools, community agencies, senior centers and other local venues. The project is expected to impact over 7,000-10,000 community members.

Growing Futures Youth Corps--\$16,363

Trees Forever (REAP CEP #09-15)

Contact: Karen Brook; Marion
319-373-0650, ext. 14; kbrook@treesforever.org

Project funded: December 2008

Growing Futures Youth Corps is an eight-week summer environmental work program for 16- to 21-year old youth in the Linn County area. Its goals include providing a short-term natural resource management workforce for agencies in Linn County, create a pool of skilled workers for future projects, and help young people become more environmentally knowledgeable and conscientious.

Iowa Roadside Native Communities: Savanna--\$39,734

University of Northern Iowa Center for Energy & Environmental Education
(REAP CEP #09-06)

Contact: Carl Bollwinkel, Cedar Falls
319-273-3217; bollwinkel@uni.edu

Project funded: May 2008

This project entails educating 48 teachers and naturalists about savannas during two weekend workshops in 2008-09. Partners include professionals from all Regents universities and seven organizations.

Prairies in Progress III: Savanna--\$15,704
University of Northern Iowa Center for Energy & Environmental Education
(REAP CEP #09-13)

Contact: Carl Bollwinkel; Cedar Falls
319-273-2783; bollwinkel@uni.edu

Project funded: December 2008

This project will offer teachers in the Iowa's Roadside Native Communities: Savanna additional training in the variables of prairie/savanna development, maintenance and management.

Community Reading and Environment Celebrations--\$17,515
University of Northern Iowa Center for Energy & Environmental Education
(REAP CEP #09-05)

Contact: Susan Salterberg, Cedar Falls
319-337-4816; susan.salterberg@uni.edu

Project funded: May 2008

UNI will spearhead three month-long "Reading and the Environment" Celebrations, working closely with partners in Muscatine, Dubuque and Cedar Falls. The project goals are to encourage the love of reading and the love of the natural world among citizens in these three communities.

Waste, Lifecycles & Conservation Teacher Training Initiative--\$28,573
University of Northern Iowa Center for Energy & Environmental Education
(REAP CEP #09-12)

Contact: Susan Salterberg; Cedar Falls
319-337-4816; susan.salterberg@uni.edu

Project funded: December 2008

The project will introduce conservation education lesson plans to an estimated 600-700 K-12 educators through conferences and meetings and will offer three Waste Reduction: Addressing the Overlooked "R" graduate courses to 80-85 teachers.

Fit Environment--\$27,571
Winneshiek County Conservation Board (REAP CEP #09-07)

Contact: Marissa Norschow, Fort Atkinson
563-534-7145; d4os@acegroup.cc

Project funded: May 2008

Fit Environment will provide resources to teach outdoor recreation to middle and high school physical education students. This allows science and PE teachers to connect children with nature while increasing knowledge and skills. This will be a model for how to get youth outside.